

# social hygiene news

AMERICAN SOCIAL HYGIENE ASSOCIATION



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## "THE BUSINESS OF SEX" IS NOT THE COMPLETE STORY



Conrad Van Hyning

In commenting on the interest aroused by the recent CBS show on "The Business of Sex" moderated by Edward R. Murrow, Conrad Van Hyning, Executive Director of the American Social Hygiene Association stated that the significance of prostitution as a social problem in the United States goes far beyond its purported implications to the business world as portrayed on the CBS show. The American Social Hygiene Association hopes that this widespread public interest may be broadened to include an equally grave concern about other phases of prostitution which the Association believes are more harmful and more significant because the number of girls involved is far greater and because the customers are boys and young men, many of whom are members of the Armed Forces of the United States.

In 1958, for example, prostitution was studied by the American Social Hygiene Association in 125 American communities. In thirty-eight of these cities the Association found prostitutes easily available in hotels, and as "pick-ups" in bars and taverns. Most of these communities were visited by large numbers of servicemen. In the other eighty-seven communities the

Association found prostitution at almost an irreducible minimum.

The American Social Hygiene Association has confidential records on the status of commercialized prostitution in 900 American communities. These records, Mr. Van Hyning stated, contain documentary evidence secured by the Association's trained investigators based on a total of 3,273 studies in the 900 cities over a ten-year period.

The American Social Hygiene Association is a national voluntary agency now supported mainly by Community Chests and United Funds throughout the United States. As one of its major activities it has carried on the fight against commercialized prostitution for the past forty-five years. Mr. Van Hyning pointed out that it is the only national voluntary agency which makes studies of commercialized prostitution and related vice.

Investigations carried on by the Association are made mainly at the request of officials of the Armed Forces of the United States and are mostly in communities near military installations or where servicemen spend their "leave" time. Mr. Van Hyning stated that in the official regulations of each of the major branches of the Armed Forces—Army, Navy and Air Force—specific measures are set forth for the protection of the moral welfare of members of the Armed Forces. In connection with these measures the American Social Hygiene Association is listed as a resource which may be called upon by officials of the Armed Forces in relation to prostitution.

In recent years, according to Mr. Van Hyning, the old-time brothel has largely disappeared and the tolerated "red light" district has been practically eliminated. Today the trend

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## ANCHEP Holds February Meeting In New York

The American National Council for Health Education of the Public held its first annual meeting at the Belmont Plaza Hotel in New York City, February 10, 11, 12, 1959.

The meetings, which were held jointly with the National Conference for Cooperation in Health Education were part of a world-wide series of meetings being held in advance of two world conferences to be held in May; the 4th Conference of the International Union for Health Education of the Public (Dusseldorf, May 2-9), and the 12th Assembly of the World Health Organization (Geneva, beginning May 12) which will discuss "health education of the public" in its technical sessions.

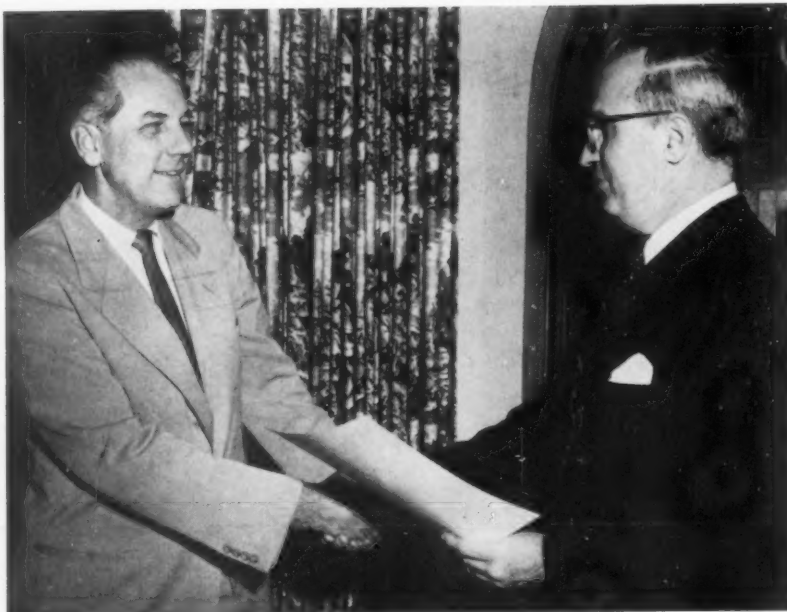
The international keynote was sounded at the opening banquet on Tuesday, February 12, by Dr. Carlos L. Gonzales of Venezuela, Assistant Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, who spoke on health education developments in South America from the point of view of a health administrator. Developments in the United States in the field of school health education were presented by Dr. W. W. Bauer of the American Medical Association, representing the Joint Committee on Health Problems in Education, of the National Education Association of the A.M.A.

Dr. Beryl Roberts of the School of Public Health of the University of California and President of the Society of Public Health Educators spoke at the evening meeting on February 11.

## SOCIAL HYGIENE DAY

The American Social Hygiene Association will hold its annual Social Hygiene Day, Wednesday, April 29.

Theme for the day will be announced in the March Social Hygiene News.



Dr. Henry A. Bowman (right) receives Honorary Life Membership from N. Norman Orgel, ASHA Board Member.

## Dr. Henry A. Bowman Receives ASHA Honorary Life Membership Award

The American Social Hygiene Association presented Henry A. Bowman, Ph.D., with an Honorary Life Membership on January 12 in Austin, Texas.

N. Norman Orgel, M.D., ASHA Board Member, gave the award at a dinner meeting co-honoring Dr. Bowman and members of the 1959 Seminar on Marriage and Family Counseling for Chaplains of the U. S. Air Force.

The meeting was conducted by the Hogg Foundation and presided over by Dr. Bernice Moore, Seminar Director, in the absence of Dr. Robert L. Sutherland, Hogg Foundation Director.

Dr. Bowman, currently associate professor of sociology at the University of Texas, was for twenty-four years a member of the sociology department at Stephens College.

Dr. Bowman received his Ph.D. in Sociology at Yale in 1931 and immediately joined the staff at Stephens.

After his first three years of teaching sociology, Dr. Bowman noted that material relating to marriage and the family aroused the interest of his students more than any other facet of the subject matter, and so he decided to inaugurate a course devoted specifically to these topics.

Since this amounted to a near-pioneer venture, he was faced with the problem of developing ideas not only of methodology, but also of content. There was not even one college text on marriage at that time.

Beginning with a hand-picked group which he taught in his home, Dr. Bowman has implemented and moulded an idea into an overwhelming reality. Today more than 6,000 students have taken his course.

In teaching his highly successful course, he has brought students into contact with facts, principles, attitudes and problems in order to better enable them to cope with the weighty problems they will encounter in later life.

Dr. Bowman is president of the National Council on Family Relations, the American Association of Marriage Counselors, the American Sociological Society, the American Association of University Professors, the Southwest Sociological Society, Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Kappa Delta, and the Texas Association of College Teachers.

His textbook, "Marriage for Moderns," will soon appear in its fourth edition. In connection with the text, eight movies have been produced, and he has recently finished a book on the Christian interpretation of marriage.

## PEOPLE AND PLACES

The role of parents in coping with the mounting rate of venereal diseases among teenagers was the topic of a recent address given by Dr. Robert N. Hoyt before the John Adams PTA in Cleveland, Ohio.

Dr. Hoyt, who is Secretary of Cleveland's Joint Social Hygiene Committee, told parents that the frequently heard "get tough with the younger generation" attitude is much too superficial an answer to an involved problem. He advocated a family council which would accept the youngsters as comrades and which would teach them as early as possible to make their own decisions. He added that more emphasis must be placed on a shared-parent responsibility for child rearing since the job is too often taken over by the mother alone. He also admonished that parents must be extremely careful to steer a middle course between being over-protective and careless.

Mrs. Mary Bussanich, guidance consultant for the Spokane Public Schools, recently gave a report before the Spokane County Social Hygiene Association on the meeting of Social Hygiene Affiliates which was held at ASHA headquarters in New York City in December.

Mrs. Elizabeth S. Force, ASHA Family Life Consultant, spoke before the Women's Auxiliary of the Medical Society of Queens, New York, in January. Her topic was "Should We Teach Family Life Education in Our Schools?"

She also addressed a group of high school students in Mamaroneck, N. Y., on "How Does the Way I Live Today Affect the Family I Build Tomorrow?"

Miss Mary K. Mangan, ASHA Public Information Director, and Mr. Philip Akre, Central Atlantic Regional Director, represented ASHA at the UCFC Mideast Regional Conference and Public Relations Clinic which was held in Washington, D. C., February 15-20.

### Social Hygiene NEWS

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### THE AMERICAN SOCIAL HYGIENE ASSOCIATION

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## "Business of Sex"

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is toward call girls operating in hotels, or "pickups" operating in bars and other places of entertainment, who take their customers to rooming houses or to their own places of residence.

Following each investigation, the Association's regional staff presents its findings to law enforcement and civic officials, to the Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board for the area, and to civic and business leaders in the community in an attempt to bring about action to reduce or eliminate the problem. In most instances remedial action follows, said Mr. Van Hynning, but in a few instances civic authorities and community leaders still tolerate prostitution as a "necessary evil" and in a few others corruption of law enforcement officials permits continuing operation. Effective results are secured, according to the Association's Executive, when honest law enforcement officials are backed by the firm conviction of community leaders that the business of prostitution is inconsistent with a community climate in which adult leadership can set a high example for young people.

We hope, said Mr. Van Hynning, that the wide attention given to the CBS program on prostitution may stimulate concern and action on all important aspects of this problem; including the tolerance of a practice which permits the recruitment of girls into prostitution, about what happens to their lives, about their treatment and their rehabilitation; and about police and court methods and procedures involved in the arrest and disposition of girls charged with prostitution. It should be recognized that while prostitution is listed as a crime in the statutes of almost all of the states, psychiatry has long recognized that girls and women who engage in prostitution are persons who need treatment, not punishment. We have learned through long experience:

1. That prostitution can be kept at a minimum in any American community where honest law enforcement officials work diligently at the problem with the support of civic authorities, religious, business and industrial leaders and with the cooperation of hotels and property owners.

2. That where prostitution is kept at a minimum there is no organized business into which to recruit girls

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Malcolm S. M. Watts, ASHA Board Member, presents Col. Harold A. Davenport with ASHA Honorary Life Membership.

## Colonel Harold A. Davenport Receives ASHA Honorary Life Membership Award

The American Social Hygiene Association also presented its award of Honorary Life Membership to Colonel Harold A. Davenport at a luncheon given in his honor in the Franciscan Room of the Sir Francis Drake Hotel in San Francisco on January 19, 1959. Presentation was made by Malcolm S. M. Watts, M.D., ASHA Board Member.

Principal speaker for the event was John Beeston, M.D. Dr. Beeston is Associate Professor of Preventive Medicine and Public Health at the University of California at Los Angeles. He is also a member of ASHA's Executive Committee and Board of Directors, as well as chairman of the Association's Research Committee on Adolescent Behavior.

Born in San Francisco, Colonel Harold A. Davenport received his B.S. at the University of California in Berkeley. Further education led to the teaching field and later to school administration.

As a reserve officer, he was called to active duty in 1940 and after refresher training reported to Washington for duty with the newly organized Provost Marshal General's office.

In 1943, Harold Davenport became Chief of the Advisory Liaison Division responsible for final inspection of all Military Police units going overseas as well as for the conduct of service

personnel in public carriers in the United States and for the operation of military police units in the Continental United States.

He was later selected to be the Provost Marshal of the China Theater of War. After V.J. Day, he was assigned to the Marshall Mission in Peiping.

Colonel Davenport has seen much other duty. He has served in Heidelberg, in Berlin, at Fort Sam Houston, in the Pentagon, and is now serving at the Presidio.

The Colonel holds many honors: the Legion of Merit, the Army Commendation with oak leaf cluster, and the Chinese Order of the Cloud and Banner.

Colonel Harold A. Davenport, in common with the late General William A. Maglin, Colonel Harold Taylor and other ASHA awardees, has contributed substantially to the development of the Provost Marshal Corps, a segment of the military too often thought of in negative terms by the man in the street. He has been vitally concerned with the problems of the soldier, far more concerned with prevention and rehabilitation than with arrest and punishment.

Colonel Davenport was given an ASHA Life Membership because of his consistent dedication to bettering the conditions of servicemen wherever he has been.

AF

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### "Business of Sex"

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and women as prostitutes and thus by this simple device the ranks of the prostitutes are steadily decreased.

3. That the average prostitute earns a meager living and that the profits from prostitution go to the pimps and procurers and to payments for protection.

4. That the rehabilitation of prostitutes is a difficult task which has been attempted seriously in but few instances. Social workers and psychiatrists can explain why these women are so unresponsive to rehabilitative efforts.

5. That men and boys who become involved with prostitutes and their associates lose self-respect and find that in many instances their own and the lives of their families have been disrupted.

6. That while the modern prostitute may take precautionary measures against social diseases, many venereal infections still come from prostitutes.

These and many other factors, he said, account for the continuing battle against prostitution to which the American Social Hygiene Association has committed itself.

### NATIONAL HEALTH FORUM

The National Health Council will hold this year's National Health Forum at the Palmer House Hotel in Chicago, Ill., March 17-19.



READ RIGHT TO LEFT

ASHA AFFILIATES MEET: Mrs. Vera Bruhn, Executive Director, the Social Hygiene and Mental Health Assn., Birmingham, Ala.; Dr. Robert N. Hoyt, Secretary of the Joint Social Hygiene Committee, Cleveland, Ohio; Mrs. Mary Bussanich, Guidance Consultant for the Spokane Public Schools, who represented the Spokane County Social Hygiene Assn.; Mrs. Winifred Johnson, Bureau of Social Hygiene, Syracuse, who represented the Onondaga Health Assn., Syracuse, N. Y.; Mrs. Donald Held, Executive Director, Summit County Tuberculosis and Health Assn., Akron, Ohio; Mrs. J. Hart Brown, Executive Director, Missouri Social Hygiene Assn., St. Louis, Mo. (Top row): Mr. Charles H. Hoffman, Secretary, Social Hygiene Committee Health Association of Rochester and Monroe County; Mr. Garrick Williams, Director of Health Education Services, Queensboro Tuberculosis and Health Assn., New York; Dr. Franklin R. Fitch, Executive Director, Illinois Social Hygiene League, Chicago, Ill.; Mr. P. K. Houdek, Executive Secretary Kansas City Social Hygiene Society, Kansas City, Mo.; Mr. Roy E. Dickerson, Executive Secretary Cincinnati Social Hygiene Society; and Mr. William F. Benedict, Executive Director, Social Hygiene Society of the District of Columbia.



